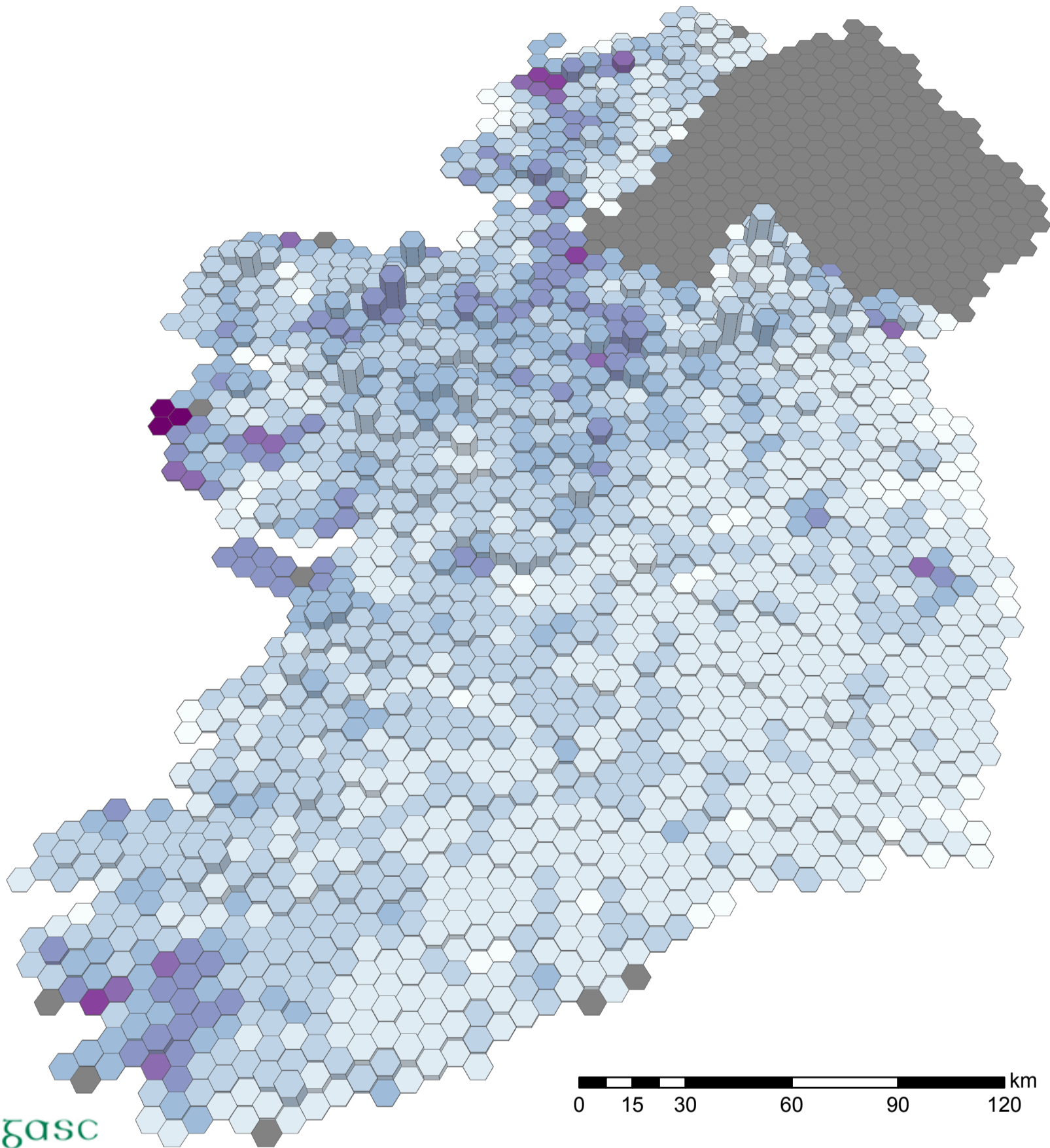
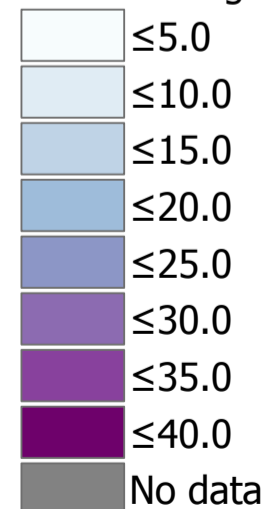


Lonely farms

Mapping potential rural isolation



Share of single person household [%]



Rural isolation is a prevailing problem in Ireland. Due to the nature of their work and often geographic separation, farmers are often subject to isolation and resulting loneliness. Here we mapped 2011 CSO POWSCAR data showing the number of single person household farms as a proportion of total farms within a predefined hexagon. The height of the hexagon represents the number of farms per area.

The map shows a clear geographic divide between the east and the west of Ireland, with areas showing large proportions of single person household farms being concentrated in the Donegal, Mayo, Galway, Sligo, Cavan and Leitrim in the northwest, and in Kerry in the southwest. The highest proportions (~ 40 %) were found in Sligo and west Connemara. Even in areas with relatively high numbers of farm houses, single households can be quite common.

Projection:
Irish Transverse Mercator

Datasets used:
GeoDirectory
CSO POWSCAR 2011

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